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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR SUPPLEMENTAL MESSAGE:****Application No. 10/037,905
Reply Brief**

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OCT 11 2004

Attorney Docket No. 98485-US-DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Ricardo L. de Queiroz

Application No.: 10/037,905

Filed: 11/09/2001

Examiner: S. Brinich

Art Unit: 2624

Title: BLOCKING SIGNATURE DETECTION
FOR IDENTIFICATION OF JPEG IMAGES

Commissioner for Patents
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REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR 1.193(b)(1)

In consideration of the Examiner's Answer, Paper Number 10, Appellant
submits this Reply Brief.

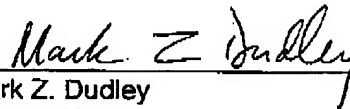
ISSUES

The Examiner's Answer is helpful in that the statement of the issues, as submitted by Appellant in the Supplemental Appeal Brief filed on June 14, 2003, now stands corrected. The Examiner has confirmed withdrawal of the prior rejection of claim 25 under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Hintzman et al. (US Patent No. 5,818,364). Accordingly, Appellant now agrees with the Examiner that the sole issue is:

Whether claim 25 is unpatentable under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Golin (U.S. Patent 5,787,207).

The remainder of the Supplemental Appeal Brief is maintained by Appellant. The Board of Appeals is respectfully urged to reverse the Examiner's rejection of claim 25 and allow the application in its present form.

Respectfully submitted,



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